

Prohibited Signage



All of the following signs are NOT allowed in the City of Fairfax:

❑ Signs located in a manner that would constitute a **hazard to the public health, safety or welfare.**

❑ Nongovernmental signs imitating or closely **resembling official traffic or government signs or signals.**

❑ Moving signs or devices intended to attract attention, all or any part of which is intended to move, including but not limited to **flags (including pennants), balloons, propellers and discs.**

❑ Signs displaying **flashing or intermittent lights or lights changing degrees of intensity,** except signs indicating the time or temperature.

❑ **Portable spotlights or beacons** used as advertising to draw attention to any use.

❑ **Any illuminated tubing, exposed bulbs or strings of lights** outlining property lines or open sales areas, rooflines, doors, windows or wall edges except as permitted for seasonal displays in section City Code section 110-178(3).

❑ **Billboards.**

Continued on next panel ⇒

Prohibited Signage

Continued

❑ **Signs painted on or attached to trees,** utility poles, public benches, refuse containers, parking meters, hydrants or like structures, except those identifying the name or manufacturer of the product.

❑ **Signs painted or displayed on vehicles or trailers** parked in places visible from public right-of-way and used primarily for the purpose of advertising.

❑ **Portable signs,** except temporary signs permitted by City Code section 110-182.

❑ Any **commercial display of vehicles** with open hoods, trunks or doors; or located on a building, ramp or other elevated structure.

❑ **Sandwich board signs,** except as permitted in the Old and Historic District with Board of Architectural Review approval and permanent sign permit approval.

❑ **Pylon signs,** except freestanding hanging signs allowed in the Old and Historic District with Board of Architectural Review approval and permanent sign permit approval.

❑ Any other sign **not expressly permitted by City Code,** Division 7.

COMMON VIOLATIONS

Violations of the City Code can result in notices of violations and/or tickets and associated fine(s) issued for each section of the code a business does not adhere to. The most common sign violations observed by the city inspector are:

- Vehicles being used as signage.
- Flags, Balloons or Pennants used to attract attention to a business.
- Flashing or intermittent lighted signs.
- Sandwich board signs displayed at business locations outside of the Historic District.

City of Fairfax Permit Guide For Temporary Signs

Basic regulations and guide to obtain permits for temporary signs located in the City of Fairfax.



Dept. of Community Development & Planning
David Hudson, Director
Michelle Coleman, Zoning Administrator
Monty Lowe, Dep. Zoning Administrator

City Hall Annex, Room 207
10455 Armstrong Street
Fairfax, Va. 22030
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Weekdays
(excluding holidays)

Tel: 703-385-7820
Fax: 703-385-7824
www.fairfaxva.gov

Zoning

GUIDE FOR TEMPORARY SIGNAGE

Zoning

The following procedures in this brochure will help you obtain a permit to display a temporary sign for your business.

The zoning office normally issues a temporary sign permit at the time the application is submitted; however there are instances when this may not be possible. The most common reason for a delay in issuing a permit is when an application is missing required information.

NOTICE

Permits for ground-mounted temporary banners are no longer available as an option to advertise a Grand Opening or Sales Event for a business in the City of Fairfax. A Grand Opening or Sales Event banner for a business or tenant must be attached on the building on the same side where the entrance door for the public is located.

TEMPORARY SIGNS STEPS FOR PERMIT

1) **Application Form.** The applicant submits a completed application to the Zoning Office with all information requested on the application filled in. Two signatures are required on the application form: the applicant and the property owner. The application form must provide **ALL** requested information.

2) **Drawing.** One drawing of the proposed sign must accompany the application form. The drawing must show **ALL** dimensions of the sign, including the total height of the sign if it is attached onto poles (a template is provided with the application).

3) **Review.** Staff will review the application. If the sign meets all zoning regulation criteria the application is approved at this time. If further information is required the applicant will be notified of the additional information that remains outstanding.

4) **Payment.** Upon approval, the applicant makes the appropriate payment to the City of Fairfax for the sign and the sign can be displayed for the dates specified on the application.

TEMPORARY SIGNS STEPS FOR PERMIT (CONTINUED)

5) **Removal.** A temporary sign may only be displayed for the dates specified on the approved application. Applicant is responsible for removing the sign by the expiration date specified on the application to avoid any Notices of Violation and possible fines.

City Hall Annex Bldg



Continued on next panel ➡